



THE CITY OF WHITTIER

Gateway to Western Prince William Sound

P.O. Box 608 • Whittier, Alaska 99693 • (907) 472-2327 • Fax (907) 472-2404

PLANNING COMMISSION

Special Meeting

Tuesday August 23, 2011

Homeowner's Lounge, BTI

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Charlene Arneson called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm

2. OPENING CEREMONY

Charlene Arneson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Commission members present and establishing a quorum:

Jerry Vandergriff	Seat A	Absent
Rob Cone-Clark	Seat B	Absent
Ed Hedges	Seat C	Present
Walter Finke	Seat D	Present
Charlene Arneson	Seat E	Present

MOTION: Ed Hedges made a motion to excuse Jerry Vandergriff and Rob Cone-Clark from tonight's meeting.

SECOND: Walter Finke seconded the motion.

VOTE: Unanimous

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

Robert Prunella, City Manager
Scott Korbe, Director of Public Works
Teresa Wilson, Commission Clerk

PUBLIC PRESENT

Cam Bender

4. APPROVAL OF SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

MOTION: Walter Finke made a motion to approve the Special Meeting Agenda of August 23, 2011 as written.

SECOND: Ed Hedges seconded the motion

VOTE: Unanimous

DISCUSSION: Item 4 date on the agenda needs to reflect August 23, 2011

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Walter Finke made a motion to approve the minutes of July 12, 2011 regular Planning Meeting as written.

SECOND: Ed Hedges seconded the motion.

VOTE: Unanimous

6. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

a. Robert Prunella, City Manager

Robert Prunella reported that the City has spent approximately 1/3 of the \$35,000.00 Comprehensive Plan budget at this point. Bob plans on attending an Alaska Railroad Workshop in Whittier on September 6, 2011 as well as a visit from Federal Officials sometime in September where 5 – 6 people from the City will take a bus tour of the area.

b. Scott Korbe reported that a future goal of the Public Works Department is to apply more signage to the community to identify parks, coastal trails, museum, Pedestrian Tunnel, fishing and camping areas, etc. The City will be working with Alaska Railroad to accomplish this goal.

7. NEW BUSINESS

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Locate the Official City Charter

Bob Prunella stated that the City located the Charter of 1969 that designates the City incorporation of a fourth class city.

b. Review of Comprehensive Plan

The Commission finished the editing process of the Comprehensive Plan document from pages 64 through 85; end of document.

Terri e-mailed Commission changes to Suzanne Taylor.

Whittier Looks Ahead Newsletter – Mailing lists need to be updated. It was suggested that the newsletter be included in utility billing, be available for hand out in City Hall and at the Harbor Office, and at the Chamber of Commerce.

c. Review of Hazardous Mitigation Plan

Tabled until David Schofield can comment.

d. Coastal Zone Management Program – Seward Tidelands Park: Tabled until Jerry Vandergriff can comment.

e. Zoning – Head of Passage Canal: Tabled

f. Zoning – Cliffside Marina: Per Bob Prunella, this area needs to be zoned. There is confusion with the owners about land/water use and ownership.

g. Review of Tideland Zoning: Per Charlene, the City and ARR both have entitlement to the tidelands. The City can zone the tidelands that are within the city boundaries but cannot limit public access 25' from

tidelines.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Cam Bender stated that he has a lot of ideas that he would like to share about the Comprehensive Plan. He would like to improve the entire area starting with Shakespeare Creek; he was invited by the Commission to attend the upcoming Public Hearings to update the Comprehensive Plan.

Cam asked the Commission if there are final plans for the use of Head of Passage Canal; Bob Prunella stated that the Port & Harbor Commission and the Harbor Master will be responsible for coming up with a plan, rules and regulations for that area. Cam will attend the next Port & Harbor meeting to share his ideas.

10. COMMISSION COMMENTS:

Charlene reported that she learned that the Alaska Railroad plans to fence in the entire rail yard in the near future. Charlene commented on the recently compiled "Whittier Visitor Information" that Terri put together; it is great for everyday use even for locals.

11. NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS: Remove 8 a from agenda.

12. NEXT MEETING ATTENDANCE PLANS: September 13, 2011 at 7:00 pm

13. ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Ed Hedges made the motion to adjourn the meeting.

SECOND: Walter Finke seconded the motion.

VOTE: Unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 9:01 pm.

Attest:

Teresa Wilson,
Commission Clerk

Charlene Arneson,
Commission Vice Chairperson